

Amendment in Application Number 09/828,175  
Art Unit: 1762  
February 18, 2003  
Page 6

**Remarks**

Claims 1-12 are pending. Claim 1 is the only independent claim.

The independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the feature from the original claim 7 of separation of the polyester backing layer from the coded covering layer. In this manner, the claimed method for manufacture of the security element advantageously provides the backing layer as an effective support for the coded covering layer to be efficiently introduced into the document for example as a thread applied on surface of the document whereafter the backing layer is then separated while the coded covering layer remains attached to the document.

The prior art of record does not disclose or fairly suggest to a person having ordinary skill in the art to provide the claimed combination of method steps for achieving these advantageous results which are not fairly contemplated by such prior art.

**Harbaugh** discloses entirely embedding the security thread 100 in the paper 104 (column 7, lines 4-7) including the substrate 112 embedded in the paper 104. There is no fair suggestion in **Harbaugh** or in any of the other prior art references of record to separate the substrate 112 from the coded metallic regions 128.

**Hutton** relates to stage lighting equipment and does not disclose any type of method for manufacturing security elements for documents as is claimed by applicant. The blank light pattern generator 10 is formed of the integrated transparent plate 12 and reflective coating 14.

**Zientek** discloses article 6 with substrate 12 making up a window of the document itself, whereby the removal of substrate 12 is not fairly taught or suggested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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